2. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 1 [, comprising] is a biocompatible [compound] polymer.

3. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 1 [, comprising] is a biodegradable [compound] polymer.

4. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 1 [, comprising] is a biocompatible and biodegradable [compound] polymer.

5. (Twice Amended) An endosomal lysing [agent] polymer comprising [a compound] an endosomolytic agent [having] and one or more hydrolyzable functional moieties selected from the group consisting of ortho-esters, hydrazones, and cis-actonyl and one or more ionizable functional moieties [selected from the group consisting of ortho-esters, hydrazones, and cis-actonyl], [and] wherein said [compound] polymer is capable of effecting the lysis of an endosome in response to a change in pH.

B1 Cont

6. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 5 [, comprising] is a biocompatible [compound] polymer.

7. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 5 [, comprising] is a biodegradable [compound] polymer.

8. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 5 [, comprising] is a biocompatible and biodegradable [compound] polymer.

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10. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim [9] 1 or 5, wherein the hydrolysis of said one or more hydrolyzable functional moieties effects a hydrophobic/hydrophilic transition of said [compound] polymer.

B2

11. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 10, wherein said hydrolysis further effects the release of [a compound] an endosomolytic agent capable of disrupting lipid bilayers.

B2 cont

12. (Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 5, wherein said one or more ionizable functional moieties comprises proton acceptor sites.

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14. (Twice Amended) The endosomal lysing [agent] polymer of claim 1 or 5, wherein each of said ortho-ester containing monomers is selected from the group consisting of N-[2-methyl-1,3-O-ethoxyethylidine-propanediol]methacrylamide, ortho-ester derivatives of tartaric acid, ortho-ester derivatives of treitol, and ortho-ester derivatives of dithiothreitol.

15. (Amended) The [polymeric lysing agent] endosomal lysing polymer of claim [9] 1 or 5, wherein the [polymeric lysing agent] polymer is combined in a form selected from the group consisting of:

mixed polymers;

linear co-polymers;

B3 branched co-polymers; and

dendrimer branched co-polymers.

16. The [lysing agent] endosomal lysing polymer of claim [9] 1 or 5, wherein said [agent] polymer is further functionalized with a targeting agent selected from the group consisting of low density lipoproteins, transferrin, asiaglycoproteins, gp120 envelope protein of human immunodeficiency virus, antibodies and carbohydrates.

17. (Twice Amended) A biocompatible composition comprising:

a packaging agent, characterized by an ability to bind to a therapeutic agent and mediate import into endosomes; and

[a lysing agent] an endosomal lysing polymer comprising [a compound] an endosomolytic agent and [having] one or more hydrolyzable functional moieties selected from

the group consisting of ortho-esters, hydrazones, and cis-actonyl, [and] wherein said [compound] polymer is capable of effecting the lysis of an endosome in response to a change in pH.

B3 cont

18. (Amended) The biocompatible composition of claim 17, wherein said [compound] polymer further comprises one or more ionizable functional moieties.

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20. (Amended) The biocompatible composition of claim 17 or 18, wherein said packaging agent and said [lysing agent] endosomal lysing polymer are combined in a form selected from the group consisting of:

B4

mixed polymers;

linear co-polymers;

branched co-polymers; and

dendrimer branched co-polymers.

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29. (Amended) The composition of claim 17 or claim 18, wherein the hydrolysis of said one or more hydrolyzable functional moieties effects a hydrophobic/hydrophilic transition of said [compound] polymer.

B5

30. (Amended) The composition of claim 17 or claim 18, wherein said hydrolysis further effects the release of [a compound] an endosomolytic agent capable of disrupting lipid bilayers.

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32. (Twice Amended) A cell delivery composition comprising:

a compound to be delivered to a cell;

B6

a delivery agent bound to the compound; and

[an endosomolytic agent] the endosomal lysing polymer of claim 1 or 5.

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39. (Twice Amended) A method of lysing an endosome, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a composition for endosomal uptake into the cell; and

B7

contacting the composition with the cell in the presence of an endosomal lysing [agent]

polymer comprising an endosomolytic agent [having] and one or more hydrozable functional moieties selected from the group consisting of ortho-esters, hydrazones, and cis-actonyls, [and] wherein said [agent] polymer is capable of effecting the lysis of an endosome in response to a change in pH.

B7 cont

41. (Amended) The method of claim 39, wherein said endosomal lysing [agent] polymer comprises [a compound having] one or more hydrolyzable functionalities and one or more ionizable functionalities.

42. (Twice Amended) A method for introducing a nucleic acid into a cell or a subcellular component, the method comprising the steps of:

B8

providing a biocompatible delivery composition comprising:

a packaging agent;

an endosomal lysing [agent] polymer comprising an endosomolytic agent and [having] one or more hydrozable functional moieties selected from the group consisting of ortho-esters, hydrazones, and cis-actonyls, [and] wherein said [agent] polymer is capable of effecting the lysis of an endosome in response to a change in pH; and

a nucleic acid; and

contacting the composition with cells.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein said [endosomolytic agent] endosomal lysing polymer comprises [a compound having] one or more hydrolyzable functionalities and one or more ionizable functionalities.

B9

Please add the following new claim 46:

--46. (New) The emdosomal lysing agent of claim 1 or 5, wherein the endosomolytic agent is ethanol.--

B10